

# **QUEENSLAND**

**July 20-August 3, 2016**



## Author

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## Introduction

In the spring of 2016 I started thinking about where to go for a birding trip during the summer. At first, I was considering a trip to Java or Sumatra in Indonesia, but after having read a few trip reports about birding in Queensland, Australia, I understood that it would be the perfect destination for my trip. As it turned out the trip met all my expectations. This was my first visit to Australia. All in all, I saw 240 species of which 203 were lifers. Birding in Queensland was very easy with good roads, excellent accommodation at birder friendly lodges (i.e. Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge and Red Mill House) and plenty of information published about where to find the target species (see below in the recommended material section). I also found the landscapes to be beautiful, and a memorable bonus was to be able to snorkel at the Great Barrier Reef for a day.

The main target species in northern Queensland (not including Cape York) are for most birders *Southern Cassowary*, *Papuan Frogmouth*, *Australian Swiftlet*, *Sarus Crane*, *Red-necked Crake*, *Buff-breasted Button-quail*, *Double-eyed Fig-parrot*, *Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo*, *Lesser Sooty Owl*, *Buff-breasted Paradise-kingfisher* (October to April), *Spotted Catbird*, *Tooth-billed-* and *Golden Bowerbird*, *Lovely Fairywren*, *Fernwren*, *Atherton Scrubwren*, *Mountain Thornbill*, *Yellow-spotted-*, *Graceful-*, *Bridled-*, *Yellow-*, *Varied-*, *Brown-backed-* and *Macleay's Honeyeater*, *Bower's Shrike-thrush*, *Pied Monarch*, *Yellow-breasted Boatbill*, *Victoria's Riflebird*, *White-browed-* and *Grey-headed Robin*, *Chowchilla*, *Metallic Starling*, *Black-throated Finch* and *Blue-faced Parrotfinch*. Of these 34 species, I managed to see 28<sup>1</sup>. The species I did not encounter were *Buff-breasted Button-Quail* (extremely difficult), *Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo* (possible in Julatten and on Mt Lewis), *Buff-breasted Paradise-kingfisher* (wrong season), *White-browed Robin* (seems like you need a guide for this species nowadays since it is not any longer present at Big Mitchell Creek; Carol at Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge knows a location), *Black-throated Finch* (searched in vain at several stake-out sites) and *Blue-faced Parrotfinch* (possible, but very difficult, in July; far easier later in the season when nesting on Mt Lewis).

I flew to Cairns from Gothenburg via London (British Airways), Dubai (Qantas) and Melbourne (Qantas). I decided to stay overnight in Melbourne on the way to Cairns. The return ticket cost me 10 705 sek. I rented a Hyundai Tucson from Hertz (via Holiday Autos), Cairns Airport, for 14 days. It cost me 3367 sek (559 aud). The trip out to The Great Barrier Reef (Michaelmas Cay and Hastings Reef) was carried out by Seastar Cruises from Cairns Marina. All in all, including port fee and pick-up by bus, it cost 227 aud.

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<sup>1</sup> As a comparison, the Swedish bird tour company AviFauna, who visited Queensland in September 2014, saw 29 out of the 34 target species (the same as me plus *Black-throated Finch*).

## Itinerary

| Date     | Locations  | Lodging                            |
|----------|--|------------------------------------|
| July 20  | Melbourne Airport - Cairns Airport - Daintree Village  | Red Mill House (Daintree Village)  |
| July 21  | Newell Beach - Port Douglas - Abattoir Swamp - Mary Farms - Mt Carbine Campground - Julatten   | Red Mill House (Daintree Village)  |
| July 22  | Daintree River - Stewart Creek Road  | Red Mill House (Daintree Village)  |
| July 23  | Stewart Creek Road - Cape Tribulation (Jindalba-, Marrdja- and Dubuji Boardwalk) - Kingfisher Park   | Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge |
| July 24  | Kingfisher Park - Abattoir Swamp - Granite Gorge - Mareeba Wetlands - Lake Mitchell  | Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge |
| July 25  | Kingfisher Park - Sides Road - Mount Molloy - Mary Farms   | Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge |
| July 26  | Abattoir Swamp - John Muir Road - Sides Road - McLeod River - McDougall Road   | Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge |
| July 27  | McDougall Road - Carr Road - Mt Lewis - Quaid's Road - Lake Mitchell - Mareeba   | Kookaburra Lodge Motel, Yungaburra |
| July 28  | Yungaburra (Peterson Creek) - Lake Eacham - Lake Barrine - Cathedral Fig Tree - Hasties Swamp NP - Bromfield Swamp - Curtain Fig Tree  | Kookaburra Lodge Motel, Yungaburra |
| July 29  | Springvale Road - Herberton - Mareeba Wetlands - Pelican Point - Kairi area  | Kookaburra Lodge Motel, Yungaburra |
| July 30  | Yungaburra (Peterson Creek) - Big4 Atherton Woodlands Tourist Park (Atherton) - Hasties Swamp NP - Malanda Falls - Nerada Tea Factory - Millaa Millaa Falls - Henrietta Creek - Etty Bay - Mission Beach | Rainforest Motel, Mission Beach    |
| July 31  | Mission Beach - Tyto Wetlands - Orient Station   | Lilybank B & B, Cairns             |
| August 1 | Michaelmas Cay - Hastings Reef - Cairns Esplanade  | Lilybank B & B, Cairns             |
| August 2 | Cattana Wetlands - Yorkey's Knob - Redden Island - Cairns Esplanade  | Lilybank B & B, Cairns             |
| August 3 | Cattana Wetlands - Centenary Lakes   |                                    |

## Recommended material

### Literature

Dolby, Tim and Rohan Clarke, *Finding Australian Birds. A Field Guide to Birding Locations*, CSIRO Publishing, 2014.

Pizzey, Graham and Frank Knight, *The Field Guide to the Birds of Australia*, Harper Collins Publishers, 2012 (ninth edition).

### Trip Reports and information about birding

AviFauna, *Queensland 5 - 29 september 2014*,

[www.avifauna.se/1.0.1.0/781/download\\_24705.php](http://www.avifauna.se/1.0.1.0/781/download_24705.php)

Birding Queensland, <http://www.birdingqueensland.com.au>

Bletsch, Gary, *Yank's LONG trip report QLD July-Aug 2010*,

<http://birding-us.org/yanks-long-trip-report-qld-july-aug-2010/>

Cairns Birdwatching, <http://cairnsbirdwatching.com.au>

Dolby, Tim, *Tim Dolby's Bird Trip Reports*,

[www.timothydolby.com/tim-dolbys-bird-trip-reports/](http://www.timothydolby.com/tim-dolbys-bird-trip-reports/)

Queensland Hotspots,

<http://ebird.org/ebird/australia/subnational1/AU-QLD/hotspots?yr=all&m=>

Queensland Tide Tables,

[http://www.bom.gov.au/oceanography/projects/ntc/qld\\_tide\\_tables.shtml](http://www.bom.gov.au/oceanography/projects/ntc/qld_tide_tables.shtml)

Reid, Colin, Australia, *Northern Queensland - December 1st - 5th 2011*,

[http://www.surfbirds.com/trip\\_report.php?id=2089](http://www.surfbirds.com/trip_report.php?id=2089)

Sunrise Birding, AUSTRALIA. *Queensland & Top End June 22 - July 4, 2013. TRIP REPORT*,

[http://www.sunrisebirding.com/13Australia\\_web/13AusReportComp.pdf](http://www.sunrisebirding.com/13Australia_web/13AusReportComp.pdf)

Vogels, Bram, *Australia 27/07/2015 - 29/08/2015*,

[http://www.cloudbirders.com/tripreport/repository/VOGELS\\_Australia\\_0708\\_2015.pdf](http://www.cloudbirders.com/tripreport/repository/VOGELS_Australia_0708_2015.pdf)

### Organizers/Guides

Alan's Wildlife Tours: <http://www.alanswildlifetours.com.au>

Doug Herrington: <http://birdwatchingtropicalaustralia.com.au>

Murray Hunt, Daintree Boatman Nature Tours: <http://www.daintreerivertours.com.au>

Seastar Cruises: <http://www.seastarcruises.com.au>

## Site-by-site Account



*Daintree River*

### **Daintree Village, Daintree River and Cape Tribulation**

I spent two days in this area which felt sufficient. The highlight was the boat trip along Daintree River with Murray Hunt (Daintree Boatman Nature Tours). It produced species like *Great-billed Heron*, *Papuan Frogmouth*, *Azure Kingfisher* and *Shining Flycatcher*. I also spent a few hours walking along Stewart Creek Road, which was very enjoyable, with birds like *Superb Fruit Dove*, *Double-eyed Fig Parrot*, *Grey Whistler*, *Tawny Grassbird*, *Pied Monarch* and *Lovely Fairywren*. This was the only site where I saw the latter species. At my lodge, Red Mill House, I saw *Wompoo Fruit Doves*. Birding in the Cape Tribulation area was not especially rewarding; it was crowded by



*Lovely Fairywren, Stewart Creek Road*

tourists and birding was very slow. I walked Jindalba-, Marrdja- and Dubuji Boardwalks, the most interesting sighting being a *Noisy Pitta* at Jindalba Boardwalk. If you decide to skip the Cape Tribulation area, which I recommend, one day in Daintree Village with a boat trip on Daintree River will be enough.



*Great-billed Heron, Daintree River*

### **Newell Beach, Port Douglas and Mossman**

I birded this area with Doug Herrington, a local bird guide. Newell Beach was especially good in the evening, with *Grey-tailed Tattler*, *Beach Stone-curlew* and *Great-billed Heron*. In Port Douglas we birded a few ponds that provided good photo opportunities. This was the only place where I saw *Dusky Moorhen* during the trip. The main attraction in Mossman is Mossman Gorge.



*Beach Stone-curlew, Newell Beach*

I decided to go there and do a Ngadiku Dreamtime Walk<sup>2</sup> one afternoon. This 1,5 hours long walk was somewhat interesting but did not really give any new deeper insights into the Aboriginal culture. The price, 62 aud, was a rip-off according to me.



*Morning birding at Kingfisher Park*

### **Kingfisher Park, Mt. Lewis and Abattoir Swamp**

Kingfisher Park is a classical birding area. I stayed four nights in Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge, in a bunkhouse room. The room was small and the furnishing old, but nevertheless I slept well there. Nearby was a good restaurant, The Highlander Tavern. Birding in the park itself was very rewarding, with species like *Spotted Catbird*, *Noisy Pitta*, *Victoria's Riflebird* and *Grey-headed Robin*. On a night tour with Carol and Andrew, we saw/heard birds like *Papuan Frogmouth*, *Red-necked Crake*, *Lesser Sooty Owl* and *Eastern Barn Owl*. Other animals seen were *Northern Brown- and Long-nosed Bandicoot*, *Green Ringtail Possum*, *Feathertail Glider*, *Spectacled Flying Fox*, *Red-legged Pademelon*, *Cogger's Barred-*, *Graceful-* and *White-lipped Tree Frogs*, *Cane Toads* and *Tube-nosed-* and *Blossom Bats*. Early in the morning, July 24, I saw two *Platypus* in a creek in Kingfisher Park. *Agile Wallabies* were common around Julatten. McDougall Road is close to Kingfisher Park. Along this short stretch of road are several ponds, always worth a check. Here I saw birds like *Cotton Pygmy Goose*, *Brown Goshawk*, *Swamp Harrier* and *Comb-crested Jacana*.

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.mossmangorge.com.au/experience/dreamtime-walks>

I tried, without success, to find *Blue-faced Parrotfinches* several times both at the classical site at Sides Road and along Jim Weir Road.

I birded Mt. Lewis together with Carol from Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge (guiding cost 150 aud), a key to the success. We managed to see more or less all the target species, including *Golden-*, *Tooth-billed-* and *Satin Bowerbirds*, *Fernwren*, *Atherton Scrubwren*, *Mountain Thornbill*, *Chowchilla*, *Bower's Shrikethrush* and *Bassian Thrush*. This was the only site where I saw *White-headed-* and *Topknot Pigeons*, *Shining Bronze Cuckoo* and *Barred Cuckoo-shrike*. Carol heard *Blue-faced Parrotfinches*, but unfortunately I never did. Other animals seen were *Musky Rat Kangaroo* and *Red-legged Pademelon*. The only important target species I did not see here was *Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo*.



*Golden Bowerbird, Mt. Lewis*

I visited Abattoir Swamp three times. The woodland surrounding the parking area was pretty bird rich. This is the only place where I saw *Northern Fantail*, and it was a good location for species like *Bridled Honeyeater*, *Varied Sittella* and *Lemon-bellied Flyrobin*.



## **Mount Molloy, Mary Farms, Mt Carbine and McLeod River**

Mount Molloy did not produce any unique species, but I saw *Red-winged Parrot* and *Great Bowerbirds*.

I birded Mary Farms two times, one of them together with Doug Herrington. On both visits I tried both East Mary Road and West Mary Road. The highlights were *Australian Bustard*, *Red-winged Parrot*, *Red-backed Fairy-wren* and *Scarlet Honeyeater*.



*Australian Bustard, Mary Farms*

Mt Carbine Campground is a bird rich area. I birded here together with Doug Herrington. This was the only site where I saw *Galah*, *Tawny Frogmouth*, *Olive-backed Oriole* and *Apostlebird*. Other good species seen were *Great Bowerbird*, *Pale-headed Rosella* and *Pied Butcherbird*.

McLeod River is a location I learnt about through Carol at Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge. According to her it is possible to see *Black-throated Finch* here, albeit I did not find this important target species here. Nevertheless, it was a nice place where I saw *Grey Shrike-thrush* (only place where I saw this species), *White-gaped Honeyeater* (one of the two places where I saw this species), *Red-winged Parrot*, *Pale-headed Rosella*, *Scaly-breasted Lorikeet* and *Great Bowerbird*. Near McLeod River is a dirt road that after a few km's reaches a dam, a place where *Black-throated Finches* regularly comes to drink. Ask Carol at Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge for more detailed driving directions to this site. I decided to turn around after driving two km's on this road, because it was very

corrugated and I did not want to take any risks with my rental car, why I unfortunately never had the chance to secure the target species at this site.



*Tawny Frogmouth, Mt Carbine Campground*

### **Lake Mitchell, Mareeba Wetlands, Granite Gorge**

It was easy to scan parts of Lake Mitchell from the road (Mulligan Hwy) between Mount Molloy and Mareeba. There is a good place to park the car west of the road, just south from the turn-off to Quaid's Road. From this vantage point I saw species like *Cotton Pygmy Goose*, *Australian Pelican*, *Black Swan*, *Australasian Grebe*, *White-necked Heron*, *Brolga*, *Comb-crested Jacana* and *Caspian Tern*. In this area, I also birded along Quaid's Road, where I saw *Pale-headed Rosella*, *Scarlet Honeyeater* and *Varied Sittella*, but unfortunately no *Black-throated Finch*, which was my target species here.

I visited Mareeba Wetlands twice. The main target here was *Black-throated Finch*, which I did not succeed to find although I worked hard for it. Nevertheless, I did find quite

a lot of other good species. This is the only site where I saw *Brown Treecreeper*, *White-throated Gerygone* and *Grey-crowned Babbler*. Other notable species were *Green Pygmy Goose*, *Australasian Grebe*, *Royal Spoonbill*, *Fan-tailed Cuckoo*, *Pale-headed Rosella* and *Scaly-breasted Lorikeet*.

Granite Gorge Nature Park is close to Mareeba. It is a small area, well-known for the *Mareeba Rock Wallabies*, but also pretty good from a birder's point of view. This was the only place where I saw *Squatter Pigeon*, and the only place apart from Mary Farms where I saw *Australian Bustard*.



*Mareeba Rock Wallaby, Granite Gorge Nature Park*

Mareeba Golf Course, situated very close to Mulligan Hwy, is worth a short visit. This is the only place where I saw *Eastern Grey Kangaroos*. This is also one of the two locations where I saw *Crested Pigeon*. Along Mulligan Hwy, between Mareeba and Walkamin, is a *Red-tailed Black Cockatoo* roost, where hundreds of Cockatoos gather every evening.

### **Atherton Tablelands**

My base for the days in Atherton Tablelands was Yungaburra, where I stayed in the excellent Kookaburra Lodge Motel. This was situated within walking distance to Peterson Creek. I visited this site two mornings. Since I had already seen *Platypus* in Kingfisher Park, I did not bother to be there at dawn (the earlier you are here the better your chances of seeing *Platypus*), which is probably why I did not see that species there. The walking paths along the creek were very nice to walk and there were some interesting species around, i.e. *Collared Sparrowhawk*, *Spotted Catbird*, *Scarlet Honeyeater*, *Fairy Gerygone*

and *Pied Monarch*. I also walked along the streets in the town itself. I never managed to find *Australian King Parrot* there, the main target, but enjoyed *Crested Pigeon* and *Pied Currawong*. My second morning in Yungaburra I met the local bird guide Alan Gillanders, who met up with his birding group at the same motel where I stayed. He informed me about a good site for owls close to Yungaburra, in the Kairi area (contact Alan Gillanders for more details). The same evening I visited this location, and had an unforgettable experience, together with birders Roger and Jane Williams, with 26 *Black-shouldered Kites*, one *Eastern Barn Owl*<sup>3</sup> and four *Eastern Grass Owls*.



*Eastern Barn Owl, Kairi area (photo by Roger Williams)*

The two crater lakes Lake Eacham and Lake Barrine are very beautiful. I guess both sites are best to visit early in the morning before the tourist hordes arrive and when the birds are the most active, but I arrived to both sites late morning. I enjoyed Lake Eacham the most. I walked around it along a trail. Here, I found *Tooth-billed Bowerbird* and *Chowchilla*. In Lake Barrine were *Great Crested Grebes* and *Eurasian Coots*.

Both Cathedral Fig Tree and Curtain Fig Tree are well worth a visit. They are best to visit early morning or at dusk. At Cathedral Fig Tree I saw *Spotted Catbird* and *Pied*

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<sup>3</sup> This bird was photographed by Roger Williams, and from that photograph Alan Gillanders pointed out that it actually could have been a bird of the northern race of *Masked Owl*, which is difficult to separate from *Eastern Barn Owl*.

*Currawong*. I visited Curtain Fig Tree at dusk on the way back from Bromfield Swamp to Yungaburra, hoping to hear some owls, but unfortunately I did not hear any.

Hasties Swamp is a really nice place to watch birds, with an excellent bird watching tower and plenty of birds around. The highlights there were *Plumed-* and *Wandering Whistling Ducks*, *Grey Teal*, *Hardhead*, *Nankeen Night Heron*, *White-necked Heron*, *Wedge-tailed Eagle*, *White-headed Stilt* and *White-naped Honeyeater*. Big4 Atherton Woodlands Tourist Park is situated south of Atherton, close to Hasties Swamp. This is a place recommended by Roger and Jane Williams for *Australian King Parrot*. I asked for permission to bird the site from the main office, and then it took less than five minutes to find the parrots at a feeding station at one of the camp sites.

Bromfield Swamp is close to Hasties Swamp. I arrived there an hour before sunset. The main target here is the cranes, and I was not disappointed - I saw approximately 100 of each species, i.e. *Sarus Crane* and *Brolga*.



*Bromfield Swamp*

Springvale Road, close to Wondecla, is a site recommended to me by Carol from Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge. I birded along the road a few hours and really liked the area. Possible species here are *Black-faced Woodswallow*, *Crested Shriketit*, *Grey Shrikethrush*, *Yellow-tinted Honeyeater* (odd subspecies pre-considered *Fuscous Honeyeater*), *Jacky Winter*, *Noisy Miner*, *Square-tailed Kite* and *Little Lorikeet*. Of these, I managed to find *Black-faced Woodswallow*, *Yellow-tinted Honeyeater* and *Noisy Miner*.

But it was also the only location where I saw *White-browed Scrubwren* and *Eastern Yellow Robin*. Other interesting species seen were *Wedge-tailed Eagle*, *Scaly-breasted Lorikeet*, *White-throated Treecreeper* and *White-naped Honeyeater*. On the way back towards Atherton from Springvale Road I stopped for half an hour and birded in Herberton, main target being *Square-tailed Kite*, which is seen here regularly. No luck with that species, but this is the only location where I saw *Grey Butcherbird*. There were plenty of *Noisy Miners* around.

I visited Pelican Point, Lake Tinaroo, in the evening on the way back towards Yungaburra from Mareeba Wetlands. This site produced species like *Great Crested Grebe*, *Little Black Cormorant*, *Great Cormorant* and *Maned Duck*.

### **Etty Bay, Mission Beach, Tyto Wetlands and Orient Station**

Etty Bay is visited by birders from all over the world for one reason - it is probably the best place to see *Southern Cassowary* in Australia. They are usually found around the small camping area, on the beach or along the last stretch of the road to the bay. It did not take me many minutes after arrival to find a 1cy bird. I also scanned the sea from the bay, which produced two *Australasian Gannets*.



*Southern Cassowary, Etty Bay*

I was lucky enough to see an adult male *Southern Cassowary* by the northern end of Musgrave Trail, 4 km's west of Mission Beach. While in this area I also took a stroll in Lacey

Creek day-use area. It was not very productive and there were plenty of mosquitos, but at least I saw a *Wompoo Fruit Dove*.

While en route from the Atherton Tablelands towards the coast I met a Swedish birder who recommended Tyto Wetlands, which was not part of my original itinerary. I decided to spend less time in the Mission Beach area and instead go all the way down to Tyto Wetlands and Orient Station. That proved to be a good decision. Tyto Wetlands is a very nice birding area where you can easily spend a day or two. There, I saw quite a few new species for the trip, i.e. *Grey Goshawk*, *Barking Owl*, *Rufous-throated*- and *Brown-backed Honeyeater* and *Crimson Finch*. Orient Station, close to Tyto Wetlands, was a location I found out about through ebird. The last part of the road there was a "rough" gravel road, why it was very fortunate that I met Jane and Roger Williams when driving towards it - I went with them in their 4wd-jeep the last part of the road. Orient Station was one of my favorite birding spots for the entire trip, why it was unfortunate that I could only spend an hour or so there. The reason was that I had to drive all the way up to Cairns the same day and wanted to get there before darkness fell. Nevertheless, the hour spent there was very productive. I had my first (and for some species only) encounter here with *Raja Shelduck*, *Black-necked Stork*, *Glossy Ibis*, *Yellow-billed Spoonbill*, *Red-capped Plover*, *Black-fronted Dotterel*, *Marsh Sandpiper*, *Australian Pratincole* and *Zitting Cisticola*.

## Cairns and Michaelmas Cay

There are plenty of excellent birding locations in and around Cairns. My favorite one was Cairns Esplanade. I visited it two afternoons and enjoyed good views of *Pacific Reef Heron*, *Australian Pelican*, *Red-capped Plover*, *Lesser Sand Plover*, *Black-fronted Dotterel*, *Bar-tailed Godwit*, *Whimbrel*, *Far Eastern Curlew*, *Great Knot*, *Red-necked Stint*, *Gull-billed*- and *Caspian Tern*. It was easy to find *Varied Honeyeater* along the esplanade. By the northern end of the esplanade was a mangrove area where I saw *Mangrove Robin*. Nearby, along Lily Street, I saw *Metallic Starling* and *Rose-crowned Fruit Dove*. Centenary Lakes are close to the esplanade.



*Great Knot, Cairns Esplanade*

I spent two hours there and enjoyed it. The best

species seen there were *Little Kingfisher*, *Raja Shelduck*, *Rose-crowned Fruit Dove*, *Double-eyed Fig Parrot* and *Metallic Starling*.

Cattana Wetlands, Yorkey's Knob and Redden Island are all north of the city centre. Cattana Wetlands is a nice place, but there were few species around and plenty of mosquitos. After a lot of searching I finally found a *White-browed Crake* walking on vegetation in Jabiru Lake.<sup>4</sup> Other good species were *Maned Duck* and *Green Pygmy Goose*. Yorkey's Knob is easy to find to, but unfortunately I did not find the path to the ocean. Nevertheless, I saw *Crimson Finch* there, one of only two sites during the trip for this species. I visited Redden Island in the middle of the day and it was very hot. Despite this I managed to find a few interesting species here, i.e. *Brahminy Kite*, *White-bellied Sea Eagle*, *Pied Oystercatcher* and *Rose-crowned Fruit Dove*.

I visited Michaelmas Cay and Hastings Reef with Seastar Cruises. I decided to focus on birding while on Michaelmas Cay and snorkeling at Hastings Reef. This was a good decision as there were almost no birds at the reef, but plenty to see below the surface. It was an almost "divine" experience to stand on the sand beach on Michaelmas Cay. Birds were everywhere around, and photo opportunities incredibly good. I spent almost an hour there watching *Great Frigatebird*, *Brown Booby*, *Brown Noddy* and *Black-naped*-, *Greater Crested*- and *Sooty Tern*.



*Michaelmas Cay - a birder's heaven!*

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<sup>4</sup> [http://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0018/7380/Cattana-Wetlands-Map.pdf](http://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0018/7380/Cattana-Wetlands-Map.pdf)



## List of Bird Species

In this report I follow IOC World Bird List 6.3 (July 2016)<sup>5</sup>.

### **Southern Cassowary** *Casuarius casuarius*

2 1cy birds at ETTY Bay and 1 adult at Mission Beach, July 30.

### **Magpie Goose** *Anseranas semipalmata*

Very common (seen twelve days).

### **Plumed Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna eytoni*

4000-5000 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28 and 30, and 200 at Orient Station, July 31.

### **Wandering Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna arcuata*

2 in Julatten, July 21, 5 in Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, 1 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28, and 2 in Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

### **Black Swan** *Cygnus atratus*

1 in Mareeba Wetlands and 8 in Lake Mitchell, July 24, and 25 in Lake Mitchell, July 27.

### **Raja Shelduck** *Tadorna radjah*

1 at Orient Station, July 31, and 3 at Centenary Lakes, August 3.

### **Maned Duck** *Chenonetta jubata*

5 at Pelican Point, July 29, and 1 at Cattana Wetlands, August 2 and 3.

### **Cotton Pygmy Goose** *Nettapus coromandelianus*

4 in Julatten, July 21, 4 in Lake Mitchell, July 24, 2 in Julatten, July 26 and 27, and 1 in Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

### **Green Pygmy Goose** *Nettapus pulchellus*

20 in Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, and 3 in Cattana Wetlands, August 3.

### **Pacific Black Duck** *Anas superciliosa*

Common (seen nine days).

### **Grey Teal** *Anas gracilis*

1 in Julatten, July 26 and 27, 5 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28, and 4 in Cattana Wetlands, August 2 and 3.

### **Hardhead** *Aythya australis*

20 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28, 1 at Springvale Road, July 29, and 7 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 30.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.worldbirdnames.org>

**Australian Brushturkey** *Alectura lathamii*

Common, seen seven days.

**Orange-footed Scrubfowl** *Megapodius reinwardt*

Seen in small numbers throughout (nine days).

**Australasian Grebe** *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*

2 in Mareeba Wetlands and 4 in Lake Mitchell, July 24, 8 in Lake Mitchell, July 27, 4 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28, 1 at Springvale Road, July 29, and 1 in Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*

10 in Lake Barrine, July 28, and 25 at Pelican Point, July 29.

**Black-necked Stork** *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

1 at Orient Station, July 31.

**Australian White Ibis** *Threskiornis molucca*

Very common (seen thirteen days).

**Straw-necked Ibis** *Threskiornis spinicollis*

Very common (seen eleven days).

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus*

16 at Orient Station, July 31.

**Royal Spoonbill** *Platalea regia*

1 in Port Douglas, July 21, 1 along Daintree River, July 23, 1 in Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, 5 at Orient Station, July 31, 2 in Cattana Wetlands, August 2 and 2 at Centenary Lakes, August 3.

**Yellow-billed Spoonbill** *Platalea flavipes*

2 at Orient Station, July 31.

**Nankeen Night Heron** *Nycticorax caledonicus*

1 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28.

**Striated Heron** *Butorides striata*

1 at Newell Beach, July 21, 1 along Daintree River, July 22, and 1 at Centenary Lakes, August 3.

**Eastern Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus coromandus*

Very common (seen fourteen days).

**White-necked Heron** *Ardea pacifica*

1 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, 1 in Hasties Swamp National Park and 2 in Bromfield Swamp, July 28, and 2 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 30.

**Great-billed Heron** *Ardea sumatrana*

1 at Daintree River, July 20, 1 at Newell Beach, July 21, and 2 at Daintree River, July 22.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba*

Very common (seen twelve days).

**Intermediate Egret** *Ardea intermedia*

Small numbers throughout.

**White-faced Heron** *Egretta novaehollandiae*

1 at Daintree River, July 22 and 23, 1 in Bromfield Swamp, July 28, 5 in Tyto Wetlands, July 31, and 4 at Cairns Esplanade, August 2.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

Small numbers at Newell Beach and Port Douglas, July 21, 1 at Orient Station, July 31, and 1 at Cairns Esplanade, August 2.

**Pacific Reef Heron** *Egretta sacra*

2 and 12 respectively at Cairns Esplanade, August 1 and 2.

**Australian Pelican** *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

9 and 8 respectively at Lake Mitchell, July 24 and July 27, 1 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28, 12 at Pelican Point, July 29, 1 at Orient Station, July 31, and 14 and 16 respectively at Cairns Esplanade, August 1 and 2.

**Great Frigatebird** *Fregata minor*

3 seen along Captain Cook Hwy, July 20, and 2 on Michaelmas Cay, August 1.



**Australasian Gannet** *Morus serrator*

2 at Etty Bay, July 30.

**Brown Booby** *Sula leucogaster*  
25 on Michaelmas Cay, August 1.



**Little Pied Cormorant** *Microcarbo melanoleucos*  
Common (seen 10 days).

**Little Black Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*  
3 at Pelican Point, July 29, and 5 in Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*  
1 at Pelican Point, July 29.

**Australasian Darter *Anhinga novaehollandiae***

2 in Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, 1 in Julatten, July 26, 1 in Lake Mitchell and 1 in Mareeba Wetlands, July 27, 1 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28, 1 in Tyto Wetlands, July 31, 1 in Cattana Wetlands and 2 at Yorkey's Knob, August 2, and 1 in Cattana Wetlands, August 3.

**Eastern Osprey *Pandion cristatus***

1 at Newell Beach, July 21, and 1 at Cattana Wetlands and 1 at Redden Island, August 2.

**Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus axillaris***

1 in Julatten, July 21, and 26 in Atherton - Kairi area, Yungaburra, July 29.

**Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax***

1 at Springvale Road, July 29, 1 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 30, and 1 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

**Grey Goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae***

1 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

**Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus***

2 in Julatten, July 26.

**Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrocephalus***

1 in Yungaburra, July 28, 1 at Springvale Road and 1 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 29, and 1 at Cattana Wetlands, August 2 and 3.

**Swamp Harrier *Circus approximans***

1 in Julatten, July 26, 1 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, 1 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28, and 1 at Springvale Road, July 29.

**Black Kite *Milvus migrans***

Common (seen ten days).

**Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus***

Common (seen twelve days).

**Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus***

1 at Salt Water Creek, July 21, 1 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22, and 2 at Redden Island, August 2.

**White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster***

1 at Cape Tribulation, July 23, 1 at McLeod River, July 26, and 1 at Redden Island, August 2.

**Australian Bustard *Ardeotis australis***

7 at Mary Farms, July 21, and 1 at Granite Gorge, July 24.

**Red-necked Crake** *Rallina tricolor*

1 in Kingfisher Park, July 23.

**White-browed Crake** *Porzana cinerea*

1 in Cattana Wetlands, August 3.

**Australasian Swamphen** *Porphyrio melanotus*

25 in Port Douglas, July 21, 2 in Julatten, July 27, 20 in Hasties Swamp National Park and 5 in Bromfield Swamp, July 28, 2 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 30, and 1 in Cattana Wetlands, August 2.

**Dusky Moorhen** *Gallinula tenebrosa*

2 in Port Douglas, July 21.

**Eurasian Coot** *Fulica atra*

1 in Julatten, July 21, 25 in Lake Barrine, July 28, and 10 in pond at Springvale Road, July 29.

**Sarus Crane** *Grus antigone*

100 in Bromfield Swamp, July 28.

**Brolga** *Grus rubicunda*

2 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, 100 in Bromfield Swamp, July 28, and 200 at Orient Station, July 31.

**Bush Stone-curlew** *Burhinus grallarius*

4 seen in Daintree Village, July 20 and 22. A few heard at night at several places.

**Beach Stone-curlew** *Esacus magnirostris*

1 at Newell Beach, July 21.

**Pied Oystercatcher** *Haematopus longirostris*

6 at Redden Island, August 2.

**White-headed Stilt** *Himantopus leucocephalus*

5 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28 and 30, 200 at Orient Station, July 31, 4 in Cattana Wetlands and 25 at Cairns Esplanade, August 2, and 4 in Cattana Wetlands, August 3.

**Masked Lapwing** *Vanellus miles*

Very common (seen fourteen days).

**Red-capped Plover** *Charadrius ruficapillus*

7 at Orient Station, July 31, and 15 and 11 respectively at Cairns Esplanade, August 1.

**Lesser Sand Plover** *Charadrius mongolus*

4 at Cairns Esplanade, August 2.

**Black-fronted Dotterel** *Elseyaornis melanops*

8 at Orient Station, July 31, 1 at Cairns Esplanade, August 1, and 2 at Cattana Wetlands, August 2 and 3.

**Comb-crested Jacana** *Irediparra gallinacea*

1-2, Port Douglas, July 21, 3 in Mareeba Wetlands and 5 at Lake Mitchell, July 24, 1 in Julatten, July 26 and 27, 15 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, 2 in pond along Springvale Road, July 29, 5 in Tyto Wetlands, July 31, and 1 and 8 respectively at Cattana Wetlands, August 2 and 3.

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*

1-2 at Newell Beach, July 21, and 7 and 5 respectively at Cairns Esplanade, August 1 and 2.

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*

4 at Newell Beach, July 21, 8 and 14 respectively at Cairns Esplanade, August 1 and 2, and 3 at Redden Island, August 2.

**Far Eastern Curlew** *Numenius madagascariensis*

5 and 8 respectively at Cairns Esplanade, August 1 and 2, and 6 at Redden Island, August 2.

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*

2 at Orient Station, July 31.

**Grey-tailed Tattler** *Tringa brevipes*

2 at Newell Beach, July 21.

**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*

1 on Michaelmas Cay, August 1.

**Great Knot** *Calidris tenuirostris*

22 and 35 respectively at Cairns Esplanade, August 1 and 2.

**Red-necked Stint** *Calidris ruficollis*

40 at Cairns Esplanade, August 2.

**Australian Pratincole** *Stiltia isabella*

2 at Orient Station, July 31.

**Brown Noddy** *Stiltia isabella*

Hundreds on Michaelmas Cay, August 1.



**Silver Gull** *Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae*

Common around Cairns, August 1 and 2.

**Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica*

1 at Pelican Point, July 29, and 14 and 12 respectively at Cairns Esplanade, August 1 and 2.

**Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia*

1 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, and 1 and 6 respectively at Cairns Esplanade, August 1 and 2.

**Greater Crested Tern** *Thalasseus bergii*

1 at Newell Beach, July 21, 10 at Cape Tribulation, July 23, 5 at Etty Bay, July 30, and common in the Cairns area, August 1 and 2.

**Sooty Tern** *Onychoprion fuscatus*

Hundreds on Michaelmas Cay, August 1.

**Black-Naped Tern** *Sterna sumatrana*

11 on Michaelmas Cay, August 1.

**Rock Dove** *Columba livia*

Seen in Innisfail and in the Cairns area.



**White-headed Pigeon** *Columba leucomela*

2 on Mt Lewis, July 27.

**Spotted Dove** *Spilopelia chinensis*

4 at Newell Beach, July 21, and 2 in Mission Beach, July 30.

**Brown Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia phasianella*

3 in Daintree Village, July 20 to 22, 1 in Kingfisher Park, July 24, 2 in Julatten, July 26 and 27, and 2 at Malanda Falls, July 30.

**Pacific Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps longirostris*

1 along Stewart Creek Road, July 23, 1 in Kingfisher Park, July 24, 25 and 27, and 1 in Yungaburra, July 30.

**Crested Pigeon** *Ocyphaps lophotes*

15 in Mareeba, July 27, and 2 and 4 respectively in Yungaburra, July 28 and 30.

**Squatter Pigeon** *Geophaps scripta*

10 at Granite Gorge, July 24.



**Peaceful Dove** *Geopelia placida*

Very common (seen twelve days).

**Bar-shouldered Dove** *Geopelia humeralis*

Very common, seen every day of the trip.

**Wompoo Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus magnificus***

4 in Daintree Village, July 20 and 22, 4 in Cape Tribulation, July 23, 1 in Mossman Gorge, July 25, and 1 in Mission Beach, July 31.

**Superb Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus superbus***

1 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22.

**Rose-crowned Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus regina***

1 at Lily Street, Cairns, August 1, 1 at Redden Island, August 2, and 1 at Centenary Lakes, August 3.

**Top-knot Pigeon *Lopholaimus antarcticus***

1 on Mt Lewis, July 27.

**Pheasant Coucal *Centropus phasianinus***

Seen in small numbers throughout (eight days).

**Shining Bronze Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx lucidus***

2 on Mt Lewis, July 27.

**Little Bronze Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx minutillus***

1 in Daintree Village/along Daintree River, July 20-22, 1 and 2 respectively at Cattana Wetlands, August 2 and 3, and 1 at Centenary Lakes, August 3.

**Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis***

1 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, and 1 in Julatten, July 26 and 27.



**Brush Cuckoo** *Cacomantis variolosus*

1 in Julatten, July 21.

**Lesser Sooty Owl** *Tyto multipunctata*

1 in Kingfisher Park, July 23.

**Eastern Barn Owl** *Tyto delicatula*

1 in Kingfisher Park, July 23, and 1 in Atherton - Kairi area, Yungaburra, July 29.

**Eastern Grass Owl** *Tyto longimembris*

4 in Atherton - Kairi area, Yungaburra, July 29.

**Barking Owl** *Ninox connivens*

1 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

**Papuan Frogmouth** *Podargus papuensis*

2 in Kingfisher Park, July 21, 4 along Daintree River, July 22, and 2 in Kingfisher Park, July 23.

**Tawny Frogmouth** *Podargus strigoides*

2 in Mt Carbine Campground, July 21.

**Australian Swiftlet** *Aerodramus terraereginae*

Very common (seen thirteen days).

**Laughing Kookaburra** *Dacelo novaeguineae*

Seen in small numbers throughout (fourteen days).

**Blue-winged Kookaburra** *Dacelo leachii*

1 at Mary Farms and 1 at Mt Carbine, July 21, 1 at Kingfisher Park, July 23, 1 and 2 respectively at Mareeba Wetlands, July 24 and 29, and 1 in Yungaburra, July 30.

**Forest Kingfisher** *Todiramphus macleayii*

2 in Daintree Village, July 20, 1 at Newell Beach, 2 in Port Douglas and 1 in Julatten, July 21, 4 in Daintree Village, July 22, 1 in Julatten, July 26, 1 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, 12 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31, and 3 at Cattana Wetlands, August 2.

**Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus***

1 in Port Douglas, July 21, 2 in Daintree Village, July 22, 1 in Julatten, July 26, 2 in Mission Beach, July 31, 1 at Redden Island and 5 at Cairns Esplanade, August 2 and 1 at Cattana Wetlands, August 3.



**Azure Kingfisher *Ceyx azureus***

1 in Daintree Village, July 20 and 22.

**Little Kingfisher *Ceyx pusillus***

1 at Centenary Lakes, August 3.

**Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus***

Seen in small numbers throughout (twelve days).

**Nankeen Kestrel *Falco cenchroides***

1 at Newell Beach, July 21, 1 at Bustard Downs, July 25, 2 in Julatten, July 26, 1 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28, 1 at Springvale Road and 1 at Pelican Point, July 29, 1 at Nerada Tea Factory, July 30, and 1 at Tyto Wetlands and 1 at Orient Station, July 31.

**Australian Hobby *Falco longipennis***

1 in Julatten, July 26, and 1 at Cairns Esplanade, August 2.

**Red-tailed Black Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus banksii***

150 and 75 respectively between Mareeba and Walkamin, July 27 and 29.

**Galah** *Eolophus roseicapilla*

10 at Mt Carbine Campground, July 21.

**Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** *Cacatua galerita*

Very common (seen fourteen days).

**Australian King Parrot** *Alisterus scapularis*

16 at Big4 Atherton Woodlands Tourist Park, Atherton, July 30.

**Red-winged Parrot** *Aprosmictus erythropterus*

2 at Mary Farms, July 21, 14 in Mount Molloy, July 25, and 2 at McLeod River, July 26.

**Pale-headed Rosella** *Platycercus adscitus*

3 in Mt Carbine Campground, July 21, 1 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, 4 at McLeod River, July 26, 9 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, 1 in Herberton, July 29, and 2 in Big4 Atherton Woodlands Tourist Park, Atherton, July 30.

**Rainbow Lorikeet** *Trichoglossus moluccanus*

Very common (seen fourteen days).

**Scaly-breasted Lorikeet** *Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus*

6 at McLeod River, July 26, and 4 at Springvale Road and 2 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 29.

**Double-eyed Fig Parrot** *Cyclopsitta diophthalma*

1 in Daintree Village, July 22, 5 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 2 at Centenary Lakes, August 3.

**Noisy Pitta** *Pitta versicolor*

1 along Jindalba Boardwalk, July 23, and 2 in Kingfisher Park, July 25.

**Spotted Catbird** *Ailuroedus maculosus*

1 in Kingfisher Park, July 24 and 25, 2 on Mt Lewis, July 27, 1 at Cathedral Fig Tree, July 28, and 1 in Yungaburra, July 30.

**Tooth-billed Bowerbird** *Scenopoeetes dentirostris*

2 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 1 at Lake Eacham, July 28.

**Golden Bowerbird** *Prionodura newtoniana*

3 on Mt Lewis, July 27.

**Satin Bowerbird** *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*

2 on Mt Lewis, July 27.

**Great Bowerbird *Chlamydera nuchalis***

5 in Mt Carbine Campground, July 21, 4 in Mount Molloy, July 25, and 2 at McLeod River, July 26.



**White-throated Treecreeper *Cormobates leucophaea***

2 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 1 along Springvale Road, July 29.

**Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus***

2 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 24.

**Lovely Fairywren *Malurus amabilis***

2 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22.

**Red-backed Fairywren *Malurus melanocephalus***

4 at Mary Farms, July 21, 1 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22, 4 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, 1 at McLeod River, July 26, 1 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, 2 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 29, and 2 at Tyto Wetlands and 3 at Orient Station, July 31.

**Dusky Myzomela *Myzomela obscura***

Seen in small numbers throughout (seen nine days).

**Scarlet Myzomela *Myzomela sanguinolenta***

8 at Mary Farms, July 21, 2 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, 1 in Yungaburra, July 28, and 1 along Springvale Road, July 29.

**Eastern Spinebill *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris***

2 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 4 at Lake Barrine, July 28.



**Brown Honeyeater *Lichmera indistincta***

Common (seen ten days).

**New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae***

3 at Melbourne Airport, July 20.

**White-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris***

8 in Julatten, July 21, 1 at Abattoir Swamp, July 24, 2 and 4 respectively at Sides Road, July 25 and 26, and 2 along Springvale Road, July 29.

**Macleay's Honeyeater *Xanthotis macleayanus***

Small numbers in Daintree, Julatten and Tyto Wetlands.

**Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis***

All in all 5 at Mary Farms and Mt Carbine Campground, July 21.

**Hornbill Friarbird *Philemon yorki***

Common (seen nine days).

**Noisy Friarbird *Philemon corniculatus***

All in all 8 at Mary Farms and Mt Carbine Campground, July 21, 4 at Mary Farms, July 25, and 7 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 29.

**Blue-faced Honeyeater** *Entomyzon cyanotis*

All in all 10 at Mary Farms, Mt Carbine Campground and in Julatten, July 21, 6 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, 25 in Mount Molloy, July 25, 5 at McLeod River, July 26, 9 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, and 4 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 29.

**White-throated Honeyeater** *Melithreptus albogularis*

4 at Mary Farms and 2 in Julatten, July 21, 2 at Abattoir Swamp and 2 at McLeod River, July 26, 4 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, and 1 in Mission Beach, July 31.

**White-naped Honeyeater** *Melithreptus lunatus*

2 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28, and 8 along Springvale Road, July 29.

**Rufous-throated Honeyeater** *Conopophila rufogularis*

2 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

**Brown-backed Honeyeater** *Ramsayornis modestus*

2 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31, and 2 in Cattana Wetlands, August 2.

**Red Wattlebird** *Anthochaera carunculata*

8 at Melbourne Airport, July 20.

**Bridled Honeyeater** *Bolemoreus frenatus*

2 at Abattoir Swamp and 2 at Mary Farms, July 21, 1 along Stewart Creek Road, July 23, 1 at Abattoir Swamp, July 24, 1 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 4 along Springvale Road, July 29.

**Yellow-faced Honeyeater** *Caligavis chrysops*

2 in Julatten, July 21, 2 at Abattoir Swamp, July 26, and 6 along Springvale Road, July 29.

**Noisy Miner** *Manorina melanocephala*

2 along Springvale Road and 10 in Herberton, July 29.

**White-gaped Honeyeater** *Stomiopera unicolor*

2 at McLeod River, July 26, and 2 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

**Yellow Honeyeater** *Stomiopera flava*

Seen in small numbers throughout (eleven days).

**Varied Honeyeater** *Gavicalis versicolor*

2 and 4 respectively at Cairns Esplanade, August 1 and 2.

**Yellow-tinted Honeyeater** *Ptilotula flavescens*

40 along Springvale Road, July 29.

**Graceful Honeyeater** *Meliphaga gracilis*

5 in Julatten, July 21.



**Yellow-spotted Honeyeater *Meliphaga notata***

Seen in rainforest habitats in Daintree, Cape Tribulation and Julatten.

**Lewin's Honeyeater *Meliphaga lewinii***

Seen in small numbers throughout.

**Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus***

Common in the Julatten area.

**Fernwren *Oreoscopus gutturalis***

8 on Mt Lewis, July 27.

**Atherton Scrubwren *Sericornis kerri***

2 on Mt Lewis, July 27.

**White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis***

1 along Springvale Road, July 29.

**Yellow-throated Scrubwren *Sericornis citreogularis***

1 in Kingfisher Park, July 24 and 25, and 2 on Mt Lewis, July 27.

**Large-billed Scrubwren *Sericornis magnirostra***

1 in Julatten, July 21, 1 on Mt Lewis, July 27, 7 at Lake Eacham, July 28, and 2 in Yungaburra, July 30.

**Brown Gerygone *Gerygone mouki***

1 in Julatten, July 21, 1 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22, 2 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 1 in Yungaburra and 1 at Lake Eacham, July 28.

**Large-billed Gerygone *Gerygone magnirostris***

2 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22, 1 on Cape Tribulation, July 23, and 1 at McLeod River, July 26.

**White-throated Gerygone *Gerygone olivacea***

1 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 24.

**Fairy Gerygone *Gerygone palpebrosa***

1 on Cape Tribulation, July 23, 2 in Kingfisher Park, July 24, and 2 in Yungaburra, July 28 and 30.

**Mountain Thornbill *Acanthiza katherina***

4 on Mt Lewis, July 27.



**Grey-crowned Babbler *Pomatostomus temporalis***

3 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 24.

**Chowchilla *Orthonyx spaldingii***

10 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 1 at Lake Eacham, July 28.

**Eastern Whipbird *Psophodes olivaceus***

3 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 4 at Lake Eacham and 2 at Cathedral Fig Tree, July 28.

**Yellow-breasted Boatbill *Machaerirhynchus flaviventer***

2 in Julatten, July 21, and 5 at Sides Road, July 25.

**White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus***

Very common (seen thirteen days).

**Black-faced Woodswallow *Artamus cinereus***

2 along Springvale Road, July 29, and 20 at Orient Station, July 31.

**Black Butcherbird *Cracticus quoyi***

1 in Daintree Village, July 20 and 22, 2 at Henrietta Creek, July 30, 3 and 4 respectively at Cattana Wetlands, August 2 and 3, and 2 at Centenary Lakes, August 3.

**Grey Butcherbird** *Cracticus torquatus*

1 in Herberton, July 29.

**Pied Butcherbird** *Cracticus nigrogularis*

1 in Mt Carbine Campground, July 21, 1 at McLeod River, July 26, and 3 in Herberton, July 29.

**Australian Magpie** *Gymnorhina tibicen*

3 at Mary Farms and 2 in Mt Carbine Campground, July 21, 1 at McLeod River, July 26, 1 along Springvale Road, July 29, and 5 at Nerada Tea Factory, July 30.

**Pied Currawong** *Strepera graculina*

2 at Cathedral Fig Tree, July 28, 2 in Herberton, July 29, and 2 in Yungaburra, July 30.

**Black-faced Cuckooshrike** *Coracina novaehollandiae*

2 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, 1 in Mount Molloy, July 25, 1 along Springvale Road, July 29, and 10 at Orient Station, July 31.

**Barred Cuckooshrike** *Coracina lineata*

1 on Mt Lewis, July 27.

**White-bellied Cuckooshrike** *Coracina papuensis*

1 at Abattoir Swamp and 2 at Mary Farms, July 21, 4 at McLeod River, July 26, 1 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, 3 along Springvale Road, July 29, 2 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31, and 1 at Redden Island, August 2.

**White-winged Triller** *Lalage tricolor*

2 at Mary Farms, July 21, 1 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, and 1 at Lake Mitchell, July 27.

**Varied Triller** *Lalage leucomela*

1 in Daintree Village, July 20, 10 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22, 2 on Cape Tribulation, July 23, 2 at Abattoir Swamp, July 24, 2 in Yungaburra, July 28, 2 at Orient Station, July 31, and 1 at Cattana Wetlands, August 2 and 3.

**Varied Sittella** *Daphoenositta chrysoptera*

5 at Abattoir Swamp, July 24, and 2 at Lake Mitchell, July 27.

**Grey Whistler** *Pachycephala simplex*

1 along Stewart Creek Road, July 23.

**Australian Golden Whistler** *Pachycephala pectoralis*

2 in Julatten, July 21, 1 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 1 at Lake Eacham, July 28.

**Rufous Whistler** *Pachycephala rufiventris*

1 at Abattoir Swamp and 1 in Julatten, July 21, 1 at Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, 2 at Abattoir Swamp and 1 at McLeod River, July 26, 1 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, 2 in Yungaburra, July 28, 1 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31, and 1 at Cattana Wetlands, August 3.

**Bower's Shrikethrush** *Pachycephala simplex*

1 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 1 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

**Little Shrikethrush** *Colluricincla megarhyncha*

1 in Julatten, July 21, 3 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22, 4 on Cape Tribulation, July 23, 2 at Kingfisher Park, 1 at Sides Road and 2 in Mount Molloy, July 25, 1 at Lake Eacham, July 28, and 2 in Mission Beach and 3 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

**Grey Shrikethrush** *Colluricincla harmonica*

1 at McLeod River, July 26.

**Australian Figbird** *Sphecotheres vieilloti*

Very common, seen every day of the trip.

**Olive-backed Oriole** *Oriolus sagittatus*

1 in Mt Carbine Campground, July 21.

**Green Oriole** *Oriolus flavocinctus*

4 in Daintree Village, July 20, 1 at Newell Beach, July 21, and 5 along Stewart Creek Road, July 23.

**Spangled Drongo** *Dicrurus bracteatus*

Seen in small numbers throughout (twelve days).

**Willie Wagtail** *Rhipidura leucophrys*

Seen in small numbers throughout (fourteen days).

**Northern Fantail** *Rhipidura rufiventris*

2 at Abattoir Swamp, July 24.

**Grey Fantail** *Rhipidura albiscapa*

Seen in small numbers throughout (ten days).

**Rufous Fantail** *Rhipidura rufifrons*

1 in Daintree Village, July 20, 2 along Stewart Creek Road, July 23, 1 in Kingfisher Park, July 24, 2 at Henrietta Creek, July 30, and 2 in Mission Beach and 2 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31.

**Spectacled Monarch** *Symposiachrus trivirgatus*

Seen in small numbers throughout (twelve days).

**Pied Monarch** *Arses kaupi*

2 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22, and 1 and 2 respectively in Yungaburra, July 28 and 30.

**Magpie-lark** *Grallina cyanoleuca*

Very common, seen every day of the trip.

**Leaden Flycatcher** *Myiagra rubecula*

2 at Abattoir Swamp, July 24, 1 at McLeod River, July 26, 1 at Lake Mitchell, July 27, 2 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31, and 4 and 1 respectively at Cattana Wetlands, August 2 and 3.

**Shining Flycatcher** *Myiagra alecto*

3 along Daintree River, July 22.

**Torresian Crow** *Corvus orru*

2 at Mary Farms and 2 in MtCarbine Campground, July 21, 4 at Granite Gorge, July 24, 5 at McLeod River, July 26, and 2 at Nerada Tea Factory, July 30.

**Little Raven** *Corvus mellori*

Common at Melbourne Airport, July 20.

**Apostlebird** *Struthidea cinerea*

10 in Mt Carbine Campground, July 21.



**Victoria's Riflebird** *Ptiloris victoriae*

1 in Julatten, July 21, 1 along Stewart Creek Road, July 23, 1 in Kingfisher Park, July 24, 1 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 1 at Henrietta Creek, July 30.

**Grey-headed Robin** *Heteromyias cinereifrons*

1 in Kingfisher Park, July 24 and 25, 2 on Mt Lewis, July 27, and 8 at Lake Eacham, July 28.

**Mangrove Robin** *Peneoenanthe pulverulenta*

1 at Cairns Esplanade, August 2.

**Pale-yellow Robin** *Tregellasia capito*

1 in Julatten, July 21, 1 and 5 respectively in Kingfisher Park, July 24 and 25, 2 at John Muir Road, July 26, 2 on Mt Lewis, July 27, 1 at Lake Eacham, July 28, and 2 in Yungaburra, July 30.

**Eastern Yellow Robin** *Eopsaltria australis*

5 along Springvale Road, July 29.

**Lemon-bellied Flyrobin** *Microeca flavigaster*

1 at Abattoir Swamp, July 24 and 26, and 1 at Lake Mitchell, July 27.

**Welcome Swallow** *Hirundo neoxena*

Very common (seen fourteen days).

**Fairy Martin** *Petrochelidon ariel*

Common (seen seven days).

**Tree Martin** *Petrochelidon nigricans*

Common (seen eight days).

**Tawny Grassbird** *Megalurus timoriensis*

1 along Stewart Creek Road, July 23.

**Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis*

1 at Orient Station, July 31.

**Golden-headed Cisticola** *Cisticola exilis*

1 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22, 1 in ETTY Bay, July 30, 4 at Orient Station, July 31, and 1 at Cattana Wetlands, August 2.

**Silvereye** *Zosterops lateralis*

Common (seen nine days).

**Metallic Starling** *Aplonis metallica*

18 in Cairns, August 1, and 6 at Cattana Wetlands and 2 at Centenary Lakes, August 3.

**Common Myna** *Acridotheres tristis*

Very common (seen twelve days).

**Common Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*

10 at Melbourne Airport, July 20.

**Bassian Thrush** *Zoothera lunulata*

1 on Mt Lewis, July 27.

**Common Blackbird** *Turdus merula*

1 at Melbourne Airport, July 20.

**Mistletoebird** *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

1 in Daintree Village, July 20, 1 at Newell Beach and 1 at Mary Farms, July 21, 2 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22, 2 at Granite Gorge, July 24, 2 at Sides Road, July 25, and 2 at Cattana Wetlands, August 2 and 3.

**Olive-backed Sunbird** *Cinnyris jugularis*

1 in Daintree Village, July 20, 2 in Port Douglas, July 21, 2 in Mount Molloy, July 25, 1 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31, 1 in Cairns, August 1, 4 at Redden Island, August 2, and 4 at Cattana Wetlands and 2 at Centenary Lakes, August 3.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*

Seen at Melbourne Airport (July 20), Tyto Wetlands (July 31) and in Cairns (August 3).

**Red-browed Finch** *Neochmia temporalis*

Common (seen six days), especially around Julatten and Tyto Wetlands.

**Crimson Finch** *Neochmia phaeton*

25 at Tyto Wetlands, July 31, and 2 at Yorkey's Knob, August 2.

**Double-barred Finch** *Taeniopygia bichenovii*

5 at Mary Farms, July 21, common at Granite Gorge and Mareeba Wetlands, July 24, and at McLeod River, July 26.

**Scaly-breasted Munia** *Lonchura punctulata*

12 in Etta Bay, July 30, 8 at Yorkey's Knob, August 2, and 7 at Cattana Wetlands, August 3.

**Chestnut-breasted Mannikin** *Lonchura castaneothorax*

12 in Port Douglas and 8 in Julatten, July 21, and 5 in Hasties Swamp National Park, July 28.

**Australian Pipit** *Anthus australis*

1 at Newell Beach, 1 in Port Douglas and 1 at Mary Farms, July 21, and 2 along Stewart Creek Road, July 22.